

Amendments To The Specification:

Please replace the title with the following amended title:

THREADED CONNECTIONS
AND SYSTEMS METHODS FOR FORMING THREADED CONNECTIONS

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] Threads **12** of first component **10**, and threads **22** of second component **20**, can be formed by various machining techniques that enable the synchronization of the timing of the thread profiles. Sleeve **30** does not require any specialized machining processes because timing is not required. This fabrication process ensures that there is essentially no gap between mating face **14** of first component **10** and mating face **24** of second component **20** after connection sleeve **30** is screwed into placed. As illustrated in FIGS. 1 – 5, but particularly FIG. 1, sleeve or connection collar **30** includes an internal straight thread (preferably a single continuous thread) such that when first component **10** is in pre-defined axial alignment with component **20**, collar **30** threads continuously from the first component **10** onto the second component **20**. A straight thread is a thread such as commonly used with bolts or other load-bearing threaded connections, as opposed to a thread that is tapered to provide a seal such as commonly used in threaded pipe connections.